



August 13, 2009

Mr. Marco Martoccia
freelancephilosophy@gmail.com

Re: Non-Confidentiality Letter

Dear Mr. Martoccia:

Thank you for your correspondence of August 13, 2009.

Research In Motion (RIM) appreciates your idea submission and enthusiastic responses to our products. However, unsolicited ideas or materials are only accepted if they are offered for review on a non-confidential basis. Please review, sign and return this letter if you wish your ideas or materials to be accepted by RIM for review. Thereafter, you will be contacted if RIM is interested in further discussions. If it then becomes necessary to disclose confidential or "trade secret" information, RIM only accepts such information upon completion of a separate confidentiality agreement.

Accordingly, RIM cannot accept or review any ideas or materials that were sent without an accompanying statement of non-confidentiality signed by the Owner or the Owner's Representative. You understand that the protection of ideas included in your submission is limited to the scope of your existing intellectual property rights and that disclosing ideas on a non-confidential basis risks losing protection of those ideas under applicable law. You also understand that unprotected ideas submitted on a non-confidential basis are freely available for commercial use by any third party, including RIM. You represent that RIM will not be held to any duty of confidentiality whatsoever regarding the ideas and materials submitted under this letter. The term "idea" includes without limitation inventions, patents, patent applications, disclosures, proposals, and any other content, whether directed to technical, business, or other types of subject matter, however described or characterized, and in whatever form submitted.

If you choose to resubmit your offer under this letter of non-confidentiality, RIM may, in its sole and absolute discretion, review it as follows:

- a) Owner - If you, as the creator, inventor, assignee, or other rightful owner of the idea and materials submitted are willing to allow RIM to review your idea and related materials on a non-confidential basis, you may submit the materials to RIM along with a copy of this letter with your signature in the signature block below. By signing this letter you represent that you are the creator, inventor, assignee, or other rightful owner of the idea and materials.
- b) Representative - In the event you are acting as a properly authorized Representative of the Owner, please insert your signature in the signature block below and furnish the information requested in Section a above. In addition, please identify yourself in the additional spaces provided below and labelled as "Representative," including the nature of your representative capacity (i.e., broker, attorney, executor, common representative, etc.), as well as the mechanism through which the representative capacity arises (i.e., written agreement, oral agreement, operation of law, etc.). By signing this letter, you represent that you are a legal or contractual representative of the actual creator, inventor, assignee, or other rightful owner of the idea and materials submitted, with full power and authority to act on that party's behalf.

Further, in the event that you are acting as a Representative, by signing this letter you acknowledge that whether RIM considers a particular idea or submission, and with whom RIM deals in connection therewith (if anyone), is within RIM's sole and absolute discretion, and RIM makes no representation that it shall, nor is RIM under any obligation to: (a) deal with parties in the order in which ideas or submissions are brought to RIM's attention, or in any particular order; or (b) honor any relationship of exclusivity among the

submitter and any other party, including the principal. Exclusivity with a particular Representative may be considered only as part of a separate agreement between RIM and Representative.

If you are aware of any patents, patent applications, or other publicly available documents covering, disclosing, or relating to the idea, please either identify or supply a copy of each such patent, application, or document. By signing this letter, whether you are acting as Owner or Representative, you represent that you are providing the idea and materials to RIM on a non-confidential basis, that you understand that RIM does not consider the idea and materials as submitted "in confidence," that you understand that RIM makes no commitment that the idea or materials will be treated as confidential information, that RIM may choose, or choose not, to review the idea or materials, in its sole and absolute discretion, and that all physical materials submitted become the property of RIM.

Even if RIM elects to review the ideas and materials, RIM makes no representation whether the same or similar ideas or materials were known to RIM prior to your submission, nor whether the ideas or materials are, or will be, used by RIM in current or future products or services. Further, RIM is not obliged to provide any results of a review to you. Finally, by signing this letter you represent and warrant that all communications associated with the ideas or materials submitted for review do not constitute any notice of infringement and that actual or imputed knowledge resulting from review of the submitted ideas or materials will not be used in establishing any infringement damages or enhancements thereto.


You may wish to consult an attorney to advise you in this matter.

Email: ideamailbox@rim.com

The attached 4 number of pages describes the idea entitled:

ePaper, Live Blue Social, eltinerary, iJam

offered for review under the terms of disclosure outlined in this letter, which I, a person of eighteen (18) years or older, have read and understand.

Signature:  _____

Date: 8/19/09 _____

If acting as a Representative, please provide name and address information in the spaces provided below, as well as the nature of the representative capacity and the mechanism or instrument authorizing representation:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Representative capacity: _____

Authorization mechanism: _____

1) ePaper

I'm going to refer to my first idea as "ePaper." Essentially, ePaper works on basic, inexpensive, readily-available technology. The idea of ePaper is to hand someone a paper document, such as a small slip of paper or a business card, and have that document link to a digital document or website through a centralized online database.

The paper (or plastic) documents will have a magnetic strip on the very bottom, almost exactly like disposable public-transit cards they use for the subway in DC or NYC, and even on the buses here in Utica. Going hand-in-hand with the ePaper documents are ePaper scanners. The hope is that these could be very tiny USB or Bluetooth devices. Their small size is why the magnetic strips would be on the very bottom of the cards they read (so the cards won't need to be inserted far into the devices).

One way for the system to work would be to have people or organizations issuing the ePaper documents tell the provider which document they would like to link from, possibly by scanning that ePaper document, which would have already had a (random?) serial number on it, then telling the provider what that serial number is supposed to be, what it is supposed to link to. These serial numbers could either be documents specifically uploaded to the server, or links to documents or engines elsewhere on the internet.

Admittedly, this idea is a gimmick. But so are spring-loaded umbrellas. I can't tell you how many e-mails I sent to a kevn.wilk@gmail.com, when it was supposed to be kevin.wilk@gmail.com. Also, when I get a U.S. Postal Service Delivery Confirmation Receipt, I think it's archaic that I need to correctly type the 20-digit code into their website. I think it would be kick-ass to hand someone a business card and have it directly link to, say, an mp3, website, or to my facebook profile. Maybe they could have a portable wireless device that interfaces with their smartphone. I hand someone my card, they slide it through a small device on their keychain, then my number is in their phone.

2) Bluetooth Social

"Live Blue Social" is a real-time social networking website / application. Class 1 Bluetooth devices can transmit information at distances of up to 100 meters (wikipedia). The idea is that subscribers to Live Blue Social will have Bluetooth devices that will send and receive short-distance beacons to and from other Bluetooth devices belonging to subscribers of the same service. This is a social networking system where users can view each others' profiles based on their physical proximity. "Person A" signs up for the service, has a Bluetooth

beacon sender/detector, and can see the profile of “Person B” and “Person C” who each have done the same and are within, say, 100 meters of each other..

The idea of this service is to help with the first social encounter. Instead of, say, a guy going up to a girl and saying “Wow, you're smoking hot; tell me about yourself,” individuals could introduce themselves based on shared interests. Perhaps there are two people who share a passion for Rugby, or Japanese Film, or anything else. They can start a conversation already knowing each other.

It can be awkward talking to someone one-on-one without knowing anything about them. But if you have little or no mutual friends, this is often the case. Further, there are many people one comes into close proximity with to on a given night with whom one would be able to have interesting interactions; if only the two parties knew more basic information about each other.

3) eItinerary

eItinerary is a robotic itinerary program that generates (with a degree of randomness) itineraries for people in own home towns or when they are traveling. Essentially, eItinerary has a large volume of local business and institution hours and event times. It also has prices associated with events. It would, of course, also need a maps program capable of determining travel times.

The user would sign up, give their location, enter in the space of time they want to fill, submit some preferences, and a computer would generate an itinerary. The user could either have the computer take another stab at the itinerary, looking at how the randomness effects the appeal of the next itinerary, or tweak and modify the itinerary provided.

This website would be a sort of synthesis of google maps, yelp, and StubHub. It's such a big task when going to a city such as NYC and trying to generate your own itinerary. Personally, I just want to do something. I don't want to spend 2 hours trying to put one day's itinerary together with maps and travel times and such. I don't care if it's random. Further, it could use Pandora and Netflix-like user-ratings of items to help with determining user tastes and preferences. Also, people might simply be able to follow itineraries that are completely person-generated.

I think StubHub is asinine for not seriously considering my suggestion that they allow users to search across all events by price (in addition to time and locale). Really. Sometimes I just want to kill a couple hours with \$20. I don't give a shit if it's theater, a sporting event, music, comedy, or whatever.

4) iJam

I think Pandora's Music Genome Project has the right idea. Music is analyzed by attributes, 150 or more genes (wikipedia).

“To create a song's genome, it is analyzed by a musician in a process that takes 20 to 30 minutes per song” (wikipedia). That's the catch. Why is it necessary to have a human manually analyze the song's attributes? It seems as though a computer could easily do this. I've looked at many waveforms, and it's not too hard to literally “see” basically what's going on for a given sound file.

So, at this point, we basically have a more efficient version of Pandora. So what? Well, if we have computers analyzing the music, why not also generating the music? Yes, artificial intelligence music generation. It will eventually happen. I assume it's possible today, and I think it could easily produce pretty good music. I've already mentioned this idea to an IT professional, and he didn't like it, but there's more...

If Mike Brown and I said, “Wow, this Playstation game called *Frequency* would be pretty cool if we had a ground mat in place of a normal controller,” we would be millionaires (*Dance Revolution*). Then, we all had the opportunity to say “These ground mats would be cooler if they were shaped like instruments” (*Guitar Hero / RockBand*). But I think there's a logical conclusion to all this, and that's iJam.

If people were musically talented, they'd be more prone to play real instruments than current videogame instrument-shaped controllers. But I think that if normal people, with the help of technology, could pick up instruments that were not just props, but actual instruments that generated original music it would be wildly popular.

For example, we already have pitch-shift / pitch-perfecter / Auto Tuner used by musicians. Why not in a futuristic Karaoke machine? But iJam is not a Karaoke machine at all. It's music generated by artificial intelligence based on what the computer thinks the users want to sound like. The “players” or “musicians” manipulate the parameters for the sound being generated in real-time by continually putting input into their mock-instruments. And of course they'd be made to all harmonize with each other, at least to an extent. I don't want to get too fancy with this whole idea, but EEG technology could possibly be integrated in a higher-end version to help the machine better read the users and coordinate them with each other.